



## TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

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### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

December 5, 2016

Town Administrator's reports are available on-line at <http://www.ashburnham-ma.gov>

#### COMMITTEE/COMMISSION UPDATES

**Energy Committee.** The Energy Committee met the end of November and completed the final reporting requirements for our Green Communities Designation Grant for \$150,825 with the State. Once our paperwork has been submitted, we will be working on our application for the next round that is due in March 2017. We are working to ensure that the baseline information is as accurate as possible and that project updates will be completed on a quarterly basis. Many thanks to the energy committee, specifically Ed Vitone, for a job well done.

**Economic Development Commission.** The Select Board has received eight (8) applications and will be making appointments to the committee this evening.

**Volunteer Openings.** Currently there are openings on the following: (2) Conservation Commission, (2) Parks & Recreation Committee, (2) Trust Fund Commission. These are listed on the Town's website under Volunteer Opportunities.

#### EVENTS

**Christmas Tree Lighting.** The Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony was held on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the event was well attended. Parks & Rec did a nice job on organizing and running the event. Select Board Chair Leo Janssens II, retired Town Administrator Doug Briggs, and I spoke at the event.

#### PERSONNEL

**Department Head/Town Hall Staff Meetings.** We held our first Department Head meeting and Town Hall Staff Meeting with Doug and myself last week. The departments provided updates and the updates have been forwarded to the Board.

**Fire Chief.** Paul Rekos, Ashburnham's Fire Chief has submitted his resignation. We will be interviewing for an interim fire chief and will be posting for the permanent position later this week.

**Fire Union Contract.** I have been notified of the Fire Union's desire to begin negotiations for the FY18 contract. Current contract has been sent to Town Labor Counsel for comments. We are looking to begin negotiations Spring 2017.

**Veteran's Service Agent.** Thomas Mader has notified me that he will be leaving the position of VSA in the Spring of 2017. I will be appointing George J. Kincannon as Volunteer Assistant Veteran's Service at the recommendation of Tom and will a ratification of the Select Board.

#### PROJECTS

**Route 101—TIP.** Route 101 is currently on the TIP for 2020 with a current status at 25%. We believe that we are close to 100% complete and have a shovel-ready project. We will continue to work with Weston & Sampson to address the State's concerns to include the Whitney Dam. We will be looking at alternative approaches to the project.

**On-Going Projects—No update at this time**

- DPW Site
- Messier Property
- Sherbet Rd Winchendon/Ashburnham Water Line
- Gardner Sewer Memorandum of Understanding